



## WASHINGTON.

Charges of Corruption Against New York Customs Officers Clearly Proven.

Business Conducted Entirely on the Spills System.

Secret Agents Sent to Canada to Watch the Smugglers.

Receipts and Expenditures of the Government for the Last Fiscal Year.

CUSTOM-HOUSE ABUSES, AS ADMITTED BY THE NEW YORK INVESTIGATION.

*Special Dispatch to The Tribune.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 21.—The third and last report of the New York Custom-House Commission fully justifies the charges of corruption and maladministration which have been made. The investigating Committee unanimously found that the custom-house is given to the good name of the Government demands an immediate reorganization of this branch of the service; and they recommend that the entire Weighers' and Gaugers' force be immediately dismissed, the districts reorganized, and the business be placed on a new basis. Everything heretofore seems to have been conducted on the spiffs system. Political favoritism was the condition of appointments. The Weighers were very greatly in excess of the requirements of the service, and were paid extra fees, ranging from \$200 to \$600 per annum, and having, as the Commission states, scarcely anything to do. One notable recommendation consists in the suggestion that while the districts be reorganized, the whole be given a inexpensive uniform. The testimony was nearly unanimous that the absence of a uniform offered great advantages to swindlers.

*To the Western Associated Press.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 21.—The report of the Committee on Internal Revenue and Customs of the New York Custom-House is under consideration at the Treasury Department.

The Commissioners agree that reorganization is demanded, and that it is important that the same be done. The districts should each have a practical expert at the head, upon whom should rest the responsibility; and that each assistant, who takes the C. & G. should be responsible for laborers to be selected by himself.

The Commission says that under the present system a large number of the Weighers who receive salaries of \$2,500 per annum, and who are assigned respectively to weighing districts, render but little, if any, personal service to the Government.

**NOTES AND NEWS.**

## RAIN'S ORDER.

*Special Dispatch to The Tribune.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 21.—The circular of the Commissioners of Internal Revenue, Rain, limiting the number of relations to be employed in revenue districts, was to-day promulgated. While the intention of the circular seems to be the good of the public service, the practical effect of it is to give the collectors and their permit Collector's to keep the latest salaries paid in the several districts within their own family, or within that of their immediate friends. Hitherto many collectors have felt a delicacy about appointing their sons and relatives as chief deputies, with a salary second only to their own, but by this order the Internal Revenue Department sanctions this custom, and, besides, gives the collectors abundant opportunity to exercise favoritism as to the number of blood relatives related to himself who may be retained in office.

## THE ANGLOPS.

The Government has dispatched secret agents to Canada for the purpose of detecting the silk-smuggling ring. It is believed that a clue has been found to the chief of the ring, and to the person through whom the goods were smuggled to the New York market.

**OHIO.**

Gen. Garfield did not seem disposed to talk much while here, but to the few with whom he talked he expressed confidence that the Republicans will carry on.

THE ARMY.

It is not true, as has been stated in various quarters, that the Cabinet has discussed the propriety of reducing the number of regular soldiers. Gen. Sherman and friends say that he has never advocated the idea in the expectation that provision may be made for officers who represent a southern interest.

The War Department official says that the army could be made large enough with the officers already in commission if the maximum number of non-commissioned officers should be placed at 100 men. On that basis, there are now officers enough to command 50,000 men.

**OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO.**

There is not much doubt that Capt. Barrett, commanding the United States steamer Plymouth, will soon be ordered to Vera Cruz, in order that the Government may have an agent there who should the services of such an officer be needed.

**GOVERNMENT RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.**

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 21.—The official statement of the receipts of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877, is \$263,000,000; of which \$100,000,000 is from the sale of \$118,500,000; sales of land, \$15,000,000; and from miscellaneous sources, \$100,000,000. The total expenditures were \$263,000,000; Indians and pensions, \$33,250,000; interest on public debt, \$67,000,000.

**OUR APPOINTMENTS.**

William Partridge, many years Surveyor of the District of Columbia, was removed to-day and John A. Partridge appointed.

Cards closely resembling United States obligations or securities are so frequently used as advertising media by business firms that the Government, in the interest of the public, has determined to stop the practice by proscribing all engaged in the work in the future.

**THE PITTSBURG LOSSES.**

**Making Preparations for Paying the Piper in the Recent Fire at Pittsburg.**

*Special Dispatch to The Tribune.*

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 21.—The Pennsylvania Railroad took the ground that the Legislature having provided by a special act that Allegany County is responsible for loss by riots, the claims for damages must be made under that act, and not to the railroad company as a consequence of the riot. The company, however, proposes to afford shippers and consignees every facility for getting the amount of their claims. At a conference to-day of Committees of the Board of Directors and the Maritime Exchange, Col. Scott said that his company was willing to give the railroad company preference to the claims arising in Allegany County. He would promise, further, that, in making the claims against Allegany County, preference would be given to the active men of his company.

Col. Scott wished all claimants to know that they might have recourse for all their losses, and to institute suits in whatever direction they chose, at any future time. Col. Scott and his fellow Director thought there could be no reliance in surrendering their bills of lading to the railroad company to prove their claims, for fear that their future course would be impeded.

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## FINANCE AND TRADE.

## Business at the Banks Shows Up to Advantage.

## The Effect of Over-Taxation Upon Capitalists.

## Active and Stronger Produce Markets—Provisions in Good Demand.

## An Important Advance in Wheat—Other Breadstuffs Tend Upwards.

## Stocks of Grain in Store in the Chicago Elevators.

## FINANCIAL.

Business at the banks in all departments continues decidedly on the increase. Orders for grain, for example, are larger day by day than for any time this season. It is arriving in considerable quantities from New York, and hence our city institutions have an abundant supply to meet all the wants of customers. Yesterday, for the first time, one of the banks reported several applications for discounts; but these were for contingencies likely to occur ten or twenty days hence that from any immediate necessity. The market for discounts may still be quoted decidedly easy, but it is working a little closer, and is likely to be more so. The stocks of grain are steadily moving upwards in general, making itself felt upon the banks of the city. Its usual discount rates are \$10 per cent, all the banks taking all the really good paper offered by customers at 8 per cent. Call loans as heretofore, for one per cent, though a few of the banks might accept a larger sum.

Shipping bills are received by some of the banks in much better supply. They are ready for all that are likely to offer, and seem to be only anxious for more. This larger movement of products keeps New York exchange down to the cost of ordering current from New York. Some 50 discount are \$100,000 worth, banks, though these are not to be had. The better supply of bills from shipments completed for two or three days previous, for the sharp advance in wheat yesterday of some 50 cts. checked transaction, but in spite of that were of modern amounts.

## TAXATION.

Discussions in relation to taxation being mainly to other columns in *The Tribune*, but the effect of the enormous taxes upon banks and financial affairs generally may be seen in that for two years past the banks have been without their circulation, reducing their capital and surplus, and investing in Government bonds. Sometimes, of course, the money is divided among the stockholders, who make the best use of it they can. In either case the result is that the banks are the only ones of the commercial world, when once business becomes active, with our large crops and large business in all departments, it is not unlikely that money may become very uncomfortably scarce. Taxation upon the banks is a heavy burden, —that is, on the shareholders, dividends, —for some of the stockholders, and most prudently-managed institutions have passed their dividends for more than eighteen months past. The holders of real estate complain that with them matters are even worse, for in thousands of cases they do not realize enough from rents to pay the taxes. The tax collectors have invested \$250,000 in Government 4½ per cent, declaring that he will never loan another dollar in Chicago. Taxes and risks eat up more than 3½ per cent difference between the rates of loans and savings, but it is not the place to discuss this, but some effort may be devised to stop the waste and stealing of public office, or no one can tell into what fearful calamities the business and prosperity of the nation are sure, at no distant day, to be involved.

## TELEGRAPH.

In spite of the low prices of everything—of real estate especially—and the abundance of promising investments offering an unusual degree of security in relation to our people. Amounts, large and small, as the abilities of parties may permit are almost daily going into the hands of one safe deposit agent, and the amount of deposits are made by men, but more women are reported than any one would suppose. Of course gold, and perhaps a majority of the deposits are in coin and bonds, thus stored away at some time in the future become useful, but for all present time the price of gold might as well be in the bottom of the ocean. The facts are given as showing the anxiety feeling among the people, due largely to the public and private savings now so prevalent on all sides, and by parties in whom the community have heretofore reposed trust and confidence.

NEW YORK BANKS. The following gives the resources of the New York Savings Banks on the 1st of July, compared with the figures on the 1st of January, 1877:

## West Division Railroad 7 percent.

## Stocks on deposit..... \$100,000

## And interest..... 100

## BY TELEGRAPH.

To the Western Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Aug. 21.—Gold opened at 105, and closed at 104½, with sales in the interim at 104½. Borrowing rates 2, 2½, 1, 3, and 4 per cent per annum and 1-64 per diem. The weakness was attributed to low rates for sterling exchange, which are close to the point where gold can be imported at a profit.

SILVER.—London unchanged; here, silver 12½ in greenbacks and 117½ in gold. COM. 12½.

Governments were weak.

Railroad bonds were quiet and lower in some instances.

State bonds were steady.

There was less vim and energy in stock market for many days past, the market showed signs of weakness. In the decline the com. bonds, trust lines and West Union advanced from 81 to 82½ on the result of the meeting last evening. Touching the telegraph, it was reported that the market was still strong, but not high enough to oppose the public. The 71,000 shares of the Atlantic & Pacific, and 20,000 shares of the Atlantic & Pacific, and part in Western Union stock at 72. The arrangement weakened Atlantic & Pacific. The com. market was quiet, and the market was not recovered to 70½, but towards the close of business, there was a renewed pressure to sell stocks, and the market was again quiet. In the sale of the lower the following day, the market was generally made. Western Union declined to 70½, and closed at 70. Delaware & Hudson fell to 46½. Delaware & Hudson Central to 17½. Michigan Central to 26. Lake Shore to 58½. New York Central to 98. Western common to 27, preferred to 57½. St. Paul to 27½, preferred to 26. Transactions aggregated 204,000 shares, of which 8,000 were New York Central, 2,000 New York & Hudson, 1,000 Western Union, 1,000 Delaware & Hudson, 47½ Morris & Erie, to 74. New Jersey Central to 17½. Michigan Central to 26. Lake Shore to 58½. New York Central to 98. Western common to 27, preferred to 57½. St. Paul to 27½, preferred to 26. Transactions aggregated 204,000 shares, of which 8,000 were New York Central, 2,000 New York & Hudson, 1,000 Western Union, 1,000 Delaware & Hudson, 47½ Morris & Erie, to 74. New Jersey Central to 17½. Michigan Central to 26. Lake Shore to 58½. New York Central to 98. Western common to 27, preferred to 57½. St. Paul to 27½, preferred to 26. Transactions aggregated 204,000 shares, of which 8,000 were New York Central, 2,000 New York & Hudson, 1,000 Western Union, 1,000 Delaware & Hudson, 47½ Morris & Erie, to 74. New Jersey Central to 17½. Michigan Central to 26. Lake Shore to 58½. New York Central to 98. 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